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In the Claims

13 14. (Amended) A method of retaining a flitch on a flitch table for [slicing] <sup>54</sup> cutting veneer from the flitch, the flitch table having a plurality of [stationary] pin dog, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a flitch having a first plurality of holes for receiving the plurality of [stationary] pin dogs, said holes forming a plurality of engagement surfaces <sup>56</sup> positioning the [stationary] pin dogs in the first plurality of holes; and moving the flitch and the plurality of pin dogs [generally longitudinally] into engagement [with the dogs] to retain the flitch on the flitch table.

56 14 15. (Amended) The method of claim 14 [wherein the moving step includes the step of] further comprising providing a second plurality of holes in the flitch, and providing a plurality of pusher pins [and the flitch includes a], said second plurality of holes being positioned for receiving the plurality of pusher pins.

Please add the following claims:

well 33.  
34. A method for retaining a tapered flitch for cutting veneer from its tapered outer surface comprising  
providing a staylog with a plurality of dogs;  
providing the flitch with a plurality of holes positioned to receive the plurality of dogs;  
providing relative motion between the plurality of dogs and the plurality of holes; and  
engaging the plurality of dogs with the flitch to retain the flitch in the staylog

for cutting.

34. well  
35. The method of claim 34 wherein the plurality of dogs have projecting surfaces and their relative movement with respect to the flitch engages the flitch.

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35.

36. The method of claim 35 wherein the flitch is moved for engagement with the plurality of dogs.

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37. The method of claim 35 wherein the flitch is moved longitudinally along its central axis.

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38. The method of claim 35 wherein the staylog is provided with a further plurality of dogs, and the flitch is provided with a further plurality of holes positioned to receive the further plurality of dogs, and the further plurality of dogs are moved to engage the flitch and the first plurality of dogs.

Respectfully submitted,



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